



News from ***EARL BLUMENAUER***

Today Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore), a member of the Budget Committee, responded to the release of President Bush's fiscal year 2009 budget proposal:

"Despite deepening anxiety over the American economy, the President's budget is another indicator that this administration's legacy will be one of fiscal irresponsibility that undermines the household budgets of America's working families. Our priorities must be ending the brutal war in Iraq, fixing our broken health care system and securing energy independence, not protecting tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, slashing Medicare and Medicaid, and cutting assistance to families struggling to meet their heating bills."

"This budget also fails to include long term provisions that would keep millions of Americans—and over 246,000 Oregon households—from becoming ensnared by the AMT." "The administration continues its dismal environmental record by gouging the State Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund, a program that is vital to local communities' ability to repair their aging water and sewer systems. The budget also cuts funding to clean up Hanford—the most toxic site in the Western Hemisphere and greatest environmental threat to Northwest citizens."

"I will continue to work with my colleagues on the Budget Committee and in the House to craft a budget that restores America's fiscal stability by making the right investments in our economy and infrastructure, creating jobs, and helping families who are struggling with the high costs of health care."